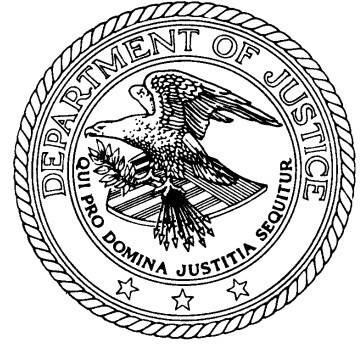


NEWS RELEASE

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FROHNA, MISSOURI MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

July 29, 2008

A Southeast Missouri man pled guilty today to unlawful possession of firearms, announced United States Attorney Catherine L. Hanaway.

MICHAEL L. SCOTT, age 39, pled guilty to one felony count of being a previously convicted felon in possession of firearms. He appeared before United States District Judge E. Richard Webber.

On July 7, 2007, an ATF officer and a Perryville police officer went to a pawn shop located in Perryville, Missouri, to check on a report of a felon pawning a firearm. The shop disclosed records that on June 7, 2007, Michael L. Scott had pawned a Marlin, .22 caliber rifle. The shop still had the firearm, which was seized by the ATF officer. While the officers were at

the shop, they discovered that Mr. Scott had pawned a Remington, .30-06 caliber rifle on May 23, 2007. That rifle was also still in the store and was also seized by the officers.

The ATF officer discovered a report by a Missouri Department of Conservation officer that Mr. Scott was given a wildlife citation on November 19, 2006, for hunting at night with a spotlight and the Remington rifle mentioned above.

Mr. Scott was interviewed. He admitted that he was in possession of the firearms on or about May 23, 2007.

Due to Mr. Scott's previous felony convictions, he is prohibited from possessing firearms. He now faces a maximum punishment of 10 years imprisonment and a \$250,000 fine. Sentencing has been set for October 22, 2008.

Hanaway praised the Perryville Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives for their work on the case. Assistant United States Attorney Keith D. Sorrell handled the prosecution for the Government.